



Indian Council of World Affairs
Sapru House, Barakhamba Road
New Delhi

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Press Release

Joint Seminar on “US Pull-out from Afghanistan: Implications for India”

As part of its outreach activities within India, ICWA helped in organizing two important foreign policy-related events in Bengaluru from 24-25 August 2013.

2. On 24 August, ICWA, in collaboration with Asia Centre Bangalore, hosted the seminar on ‘US Pull-out from Afghanistan: Implications for India.’ The event was co-chaired by Ambassador A. P. Venkateswaran, Chairman, Asia Centre and former Foreign Secretary and Ambassador Rajiv K. Bhatia, Director General, ICWA. Masterly presentations were made by Shri Anand Arni, former Additional Secretary in Cabinet Secretariat, Lt Gen (Retd) R.K.Sawhney, former Deputy Chief of the Army Staff and Ambassador Vivek Katju, former Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs.



(L-R) Lt Gen (Retd) R. K. Sawhney, former Deputy Chief of the Army, Amb. Rajiv K. Bhatia, DG, ICWA, Amb. A.P. Venkateswaran, Chairman, Asia Centre, Amb. Vivek Katju, former Ambassador to Afghanistan and Shri Anand Arni, former Additional Secretary in Cabinet Secretariat

3. Opening and closing remarks were made by Vice Adm (Retd) R.N.Ganesh, Director of Asia Centre. An interesting Q&A session followed the presentations which showed deep interest and understanding of the audience comprising scholars, former diplomats, retired defence officials and others.

4. On 25 August, ICWA, in collaboration with Bangalore International Centre, hosted a book release-cum-discussion event. This event marked the launch of the book entitled ‘The

18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China – A major Turning Point for China’, a product of ICWA. It presents a panoramic view of various facets of the Chinese polity as it transitioned through the 18th Party Congress. The book consists of a substantial number of Papers contributed by Indian scholars who were mentored and guided by the China Core Group of ICWA. The book has been edited by Ambassador C.V.Ranganathan, Chairman of the China Core Group and Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Research Fellow at ICWA. Experts are lauding the book’s contribution for understanding and interpreting the complexities of internal dynamics of the People’s of Republic of China.

5. The book release function was presided over by Ambassador A.P. Venkateswaran. Ambassador Ranganathan made a detailed presentation on the book. Ambassador Bhatia too addressed those present. The audience comprising eminent members of Bangalore International Centre had an interesting interactive session with the panelists.



(L-R) Amb. Rajiv K. Bhatia, Dr. Ramachandran, Amb. A.P. Venkateswaran, Amb. C. V. Ranganathan and Shri P.R. Dasgupta

6. It may be added that, since July 2012, ICWA has added twenty one new publications to its substantive portfolio. The publications are available in the Sapru House Library.
